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General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 21 (c)
Globalization and interdependence: culture and sustainable development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Culture and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998, 55/192 of 20 December 2000, 57/249 of 20 December 2002, 65/166 of 20 December 2010 and 66/208 of 22 December 2011 concerning culture and development, 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled "The future we want", and 68/223 of 20 December 2013, 69/230 of 19 December 2014 and 70/214 of 22 December 2015 on culture and sustainable development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Welcoming also the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inter alia, the natural and cultural diversity of the world is acknowledged and it is recognized that cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development,

Recalling also the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[3] as well as other international conventions of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization that acknowledge cultural diversity and economic and social development,[4]

Recognizing that culture is an essential component of human development, that it represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and that it is an important factor in social inclusion and poverty eradication, providing for sustainable economic growth and ownership of development processes,

Recognizing also the importance of respect and understanding for cultural diversity throughout the world and of working together and not against each other and of fostering intercultural understanding and dialogue, mutual listening and learning and an ethic of global citizenship and solidarity,

Recalling the principles of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[5] and acknowledging that cultural diversity is a source of enrichment for humankind and an important contribution to the sustainable development of local communities, peoples and nations, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives,

Recognizing the importance of multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving the diversity of languages and cultures globally and that

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[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[3] Ibid., vol. 2440, No. 43977.

[4] Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, of 1954 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511); Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, of 1970 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806); Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, of 1972 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1037, No. 15511); Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, of 2001 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2562, No. 45694); and Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, of 2003 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2368, No. 42671).

[5] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. V, resolution 25, annex I.

genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding, and recognizing also the importance for the peoples of the world to communicate in their own language,

Recalling the concerns expressed in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[6] on the underrepresentation of women in decision-making positions in the area of culture, which has prevented women from having a significant impact in the area of culture and development,

Recalling also the importance of the promotion of national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms and international and regional cultural cooperation, and reaffirming in this regard the relevance of strengthening national efforts and regional and international cooperation mechanisms for cultural action and artistic creation and recognizing respect for cultural pluralism, as defined by the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, as policies for the inclusion and participation of all citizens that guarantee social cohesion and the vitality of civil society and peace, enhance cultural development and contribute to sustainable development,

Recognizing the linkages between cultural and biological diversity and the positive contribution of local and indigenous traditional knowledge in addressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner,

Taking note of the declaration adopted in Florence, Italy, on 4 October 2014, at the third United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Forum on Culture and Cultural Industries, which follows the Hangzhou Declaration: Placing Culture at the Heart of Sustainable Development Policies, adopted in Hangzhou, China, on 17 May 2013, and the Bali Promise, adopted at the World Culture Forum, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 24 to 27 November 2013, on the role that culture plays as a driver of sustainable development,

Taking note also of the Hangzhou outcomes, adopted at the Culture for Sustainable Cities conference, held in Hangzhou, China, from 10 to 12 December 2015, and the global report on culture for sustainable urban development of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, entitled *Culture: Urban Future*, of October 2016, which placed culture at the heart of an integrated, place-based and innovative approach to working towards inclusive, people-centred and culturally sensitive urban development, and the new strategy for the integration of culture and creativity in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted at the eleventh annual meeting of the Creative Cities Network, held in Enghien-les-Bains, France, from 30 June to 2 July 2017,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General of 15 August 2017, transmitting the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[7]

1. *Reaffirms* the role of culture as an enabler of sustainable development that provides people and communities with a strong sense of identity and social cohesion and contributes to more effective and sustainable development policies and measures at all levels, and stresses in this regard that policies responsive to cultural contexts can yield better, sustainable, inclusive and equitable development outcomes;

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[6] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[7] A/72/336.

2. *Recognizes* the potential of culture as a driver of sustainable development, which contributes to a strong and viable economic sector by generating income, creating decent jobs and addressing both the economic and social dimensions of poverty through cultural heritage and cultural and creative industries, while providing innovative and effective solutions to cross-cutting issues, such as education, health, gender equality and the environment;

3. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture to the three dimensions of sustainable development and to the achievement of national development objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals, and in this regard acknowledges:

(a) That culture contributes to inclusive economic development, as cultural heritage, cultural and creative industries, sustainable cultural tourism and cultural infrastructure are sources of income generation and job creation, including at the community level, thus improving living conditions and fostering community-based economic growth, and contribute to empowering individuals;

(b) That culture contributes to inclusive social development for all, including local communities and indigenous peoples, with respect for cultural diversity, safeguarding of the cultural and natural heritage, fostering of cultural institutions and strengthening of cultural and creative industries;

(c) That culture contributes to environmental sustainability, since the protection of cultural and biological diversity and the natural heritage is crucial to sustainable development, while supporting traditional systems of environmental protection, and resource management can contribute to the increased sustainability of fragile ecosystems and the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, reducing land degradation and mitigating the effects of climate change;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Reaffirms* that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security and that peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development, and acknowledges that culture can contribute to sustainable development by constituting a valuable resource for empowering communities to participate fully in social and cultural life, facilitating inclusive governance and dialogue at the national, regional and international levels and contributing to conflict prevention and resolution, as well as to reconciliation and recovery;

6. *Recognizes* that culture should be taken into account in the promotion and implementation of new sustainable consumption and production patterns that contribute to the responsible use of resources and address the adverse impacts of climate change;

7. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States to fully implement the New Urban Agenda, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito in 2016,[8] and, in line with the Agenda, reaffirms that culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment for humankind and provide an important contribution to the sustainable development of cities, human settlements and citizens, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives, while also recognizing, in this particular context, that culture should be taken into account in the promotion and implementation of new sustainable consumption and production

[8] Resolution 71/256, annex.

patterns that contribute to the responsible use of resources and address the adverse impact of climate change;

8. *Acknowledges* that quality education is enriched by culture, which transmits shared values, knowledge and skills;

9. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[9] of several targets reflecting the contribution of culture to sustainable development, recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard looks forward to their achievement, building on the positive results and impact of programmes utilizing culture as an enabler of sustainable development;

10. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to the contribution of culture to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Invites* all countries, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders:

(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;

(b) To ensure a more visible and effective integration and mainstreaming of culture into economic, social and environmental development policies and strategies at all levels;

(c) To ensure that women and men can equally access, participate in and contribute to cultural life and decision-making, and to further commit themselves to the development of cultural policies and programmes with a gender perspective at the local, national and international levels in order to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;

(d) To promote capacity-building, where appropriate, at all levels for the development of a dynamic cultural and creative sector, in particular by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of cultural institutions and cultural industries, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sector for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

(e) To actively support the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services and to facilitate the effective and licit access of such goods and services to international markets, taking into account the expanding range of cultural production and consumption and, for States parties to it, the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;[3]

(f) To preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which are valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and local and indigenous knowledge, practices and innovation;

[9] Resolution 70/1.

(g) To promote global awareness of the linkages between cultural and biological diversity, including through the protection and encouragement of the customary use of biological resources, in accordance with traditional cultural practices, as a key element of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

(h) To support national legal frameworks and policies for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural property,[10] encouraging initiatives to fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and the return of cultural property, in accordance with national legislation and applicable international legal frameworks, including by promoting international cooperation to prevent the misappropriation of cultural heritage and products, recognizing the importance of intellectual property rights in sustaining those involved in cultural creativity;

(i) To note that, in achieving these objectives, innovative mechanisms of financing can make a positive contribution in assisting developing countries in mobilizing additional resources for development on a stable, predictable and voluntary basis, and to reiterate that such voluntary mechanisms should be effective, should aim to mobilize resources that are stable and predictable, should supplement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, should be disbursed in accordance with the priorities of developing countries and should not unduly burden such countries;

(j) To mobilize culture as a vehicle to foster tolerance, mutual understanding, peace and reconciliation in the context of conflict-prevention, conflict-resolution and peacebuilding processes;

12. *Expresses deep concern* that cultural property, including religious sites and objects, is increasingly targeted by terrorist attacks, often resulting in its damage, theft or complete destruction, and condemns such attacks;

13. *Encourages* all countries, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation in supporting the efforts of developing countries towards the development, strengthening and consolidation of cultural industries, cultural tourism and culture-related microenterprises and to assist those countries in developing the necessary infrastructure and skills, as well as in mastering information and communications technologies and in gaining access to new technologies on mutually agreed terms;

14. *Encourages* initiatives to foster cultural cooperation agreements and networks at the regional level for knowledge- and information-sharing for sustainable development;

15. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to continue to provide support, to facilitate financing and to assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to optimize the contribution of culture to sustainable development, including through information-sharing, the exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study and the use of appropriate evaluation indicators, as well as to implement applicable international cultural conventions, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

[10] As defined in article 1 of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806).

16. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to assess, in consultation with Member States, the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development through the compilation of quantitative data, including indicators and statistics, with a view to informing development policies and relevant reports, where appropriate;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams continue to further integrate and mainstream culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

18. *Encourages* all countries, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to give due consideration to the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development in the formulation of national, regional and international development policies and international cooperation instruments, and in this regard invites the President of the General Assembly to host a high-level event on this subject, with the support of the secretariat of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, during the seventy-third session of the Assembly;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Culture and sustainable development".

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10 October 2017

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 19 (c)
Sustainable development: disaster risk reduction

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Disaster risk reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/226 of 21 December 2016 and all previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[2]

Recalling further the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[3] Agenda 21,[4] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[5] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[6] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),[7] and reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[8] in particular the decisions related to disaster risk reduction,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 69/283, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[8] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

Recognizing the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk and that disaster risk reduction practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective,

Reiterating the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction for the substantial reduction of disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries,

Expressing its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their devastating impact this year and in recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative economic, social and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, and which hamper the achievement of their sustainable development, in particular that of developing countries,

Noting the convening of the International Conference on the Implementation of the Health Aspects of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, held in Bangkok on 10 and 11 March 2016, which adopted the Bangkok Principles for the implementation of the health aspects of the Sendai Framework as a contribution to the Sendai Framework to build resilient health systems,

Recognizing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, and that the adverse effects of climate change, as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to disaster-induced human mobility, and in this regard acknowledging the internationally agreed outcomes adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9]

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[10] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

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[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[10] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening international cooperation in the face of disasters, weather-related hazards, including the El Niño phenomenon, and the adverse effects of climate change to prevent major damage and ensure an adequate response and attention to the affected populations in a timely manner in order to ensure resilience to their impacts, and recognizing in this regard the importance of developing coordinated multi-hazard early warning systems,

Recognizing that disaster-prone developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, warrant particular attention in view of their higher vulnerability and risk levels, which often greatly exceed their capacity to respond to and recover from disasters, and recognizing also that similar attention and appropriate assistance should also be extended to other disaster-prone countries with specific characteristics, such as archipelagic countries, as well as countries with extensive coastlines,

Welcoming the celebration, on 5 November 2017, of World Tsunami Awareness Day, established in resolution 70/203,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/226;[11]

2. *Urges* the effective implementation of the Sendai Declaration[1] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030;[2]

3. *Also urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States to fully implement the New Urban Agenda,[12] adopted in Quito in 2016;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the prevention of new and the reduction of existing disaster risk through the implementation of integrated and inclusive economic, structural, legal, social, health, cultural, educational, environmental, technological, political and institutional measures that prevent and reduce hazard exposure and vulnerability to disaster, increase preparedness for response and recovery and thus strengthen resilience;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the continued substantive consideration of the issue of disaster risk reduction, and encourages countries, the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to take into consideration the important role of coordinated disaster risk reduction activities for, inter alia, the achievement of sustainable development;

6. *Encourages* focused action within and across sectors by countries at the local, national, regional and global levels in the four priority areas of the Sendai Framework, namely, understanding disaster risk, strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk, investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience and enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and in order to "build back better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

7. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system in disaster risk reduction, and requests the relevant United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes and other relevant institutions and stakeholders to align their work with the United Nations Plan of

[11] A/72/259.

[12] Resolution 71/256, annex.

Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience: Towards a Risk-informed and Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development, in line with the Sendai Framework, to enhance the coordination, coherence and efficiency of support to countries on disaster risk reduction, guided by the Senior Management Group on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience convened by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and to take it into consideration in the coordination and elucidation of their respective activities, in the context of sustainable development and according to the Sendai Framework;

8. *Calls upon* all relevant actors to work towards the achievement of the global targets agreed in the Sendai Framework;

9. *Recognizes* progress made in achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework, including to establish and strengthen national disaster loss databases and risk profiles and available capacities, as well as the conduct of risk assessments;

10. *Also recognizes*, in this regard, given the shorter time frame for achieving target (e) of the Sendai Framework by 2020, the scale of action needed for the development of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and thus encourages States to continue to prioritize and resource the development of inclusive national and local disaster risk reduction strategies, and reaffirms the need for the enhancement of the implementation capacity and capability of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as middle-income countries facing special challenges, including the mobilization of support through international cooperation, for the provision of means of implementation to augment domestic efforts in accordance with their national priorities;

11. *Encourages* the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures, as appropriate, into multilateral and bilateral development assistance programmes with and across all sectors related to poverty reduction, sustainable development, natural resource management, the environment, urban development and adaptation to climate change;

12. *Recognizes* that economic losses are rising as a result of the increasing number and value of assets exposed to hazards, and encourages countries to conduct a disaster risk assessment of existing critical infrastructure, to make disaster risk assessments a prerequisite for infrastructure and housing investments and to strengthen regulatory frameworks for land-use planning and building codes, as appropriate, towards achieving target (d) of the Sendai Framework;

13. *Acknowledges* that water is important to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, that multidimensional hazards, including those posed by floods, storms, land degradation, and sand and dust storms, threaten lives and basic service infrastructure and inflict substantial socioeconomic damage, and that sustainable water management is necessary for successful disaster preparedness, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, and in this regard invites all countries to integrate flood, drought, land and water management into their national and subnational planning and management processes;

14. *Emphasizes* that preventing and reducing disaster risk provides exponential returns and significantly reduced costs associated with subsequent response, as well as the importance of additional efforts to increase the availability of and access to multi-hazard early warning mechanisms for States, in order to ensure that early warning leads to early action, and encourages all relevant stakeholders to support these efforts;

15. *Urges* States, while implementing the Sendai Framework, to continue working on data collection and the development of baselines on current losses,

including working towards the collection of disaggregated information and historical disaster losses going back, at least, to 2005, if feasible;

16. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to disaster risk reduction in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[13] where it is reflected across several Goals and targets, including in their voluntary national reviews;

17. *Reiterates its strong encouragement* of and the need for effective coordination and coherence, as applicable, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[14] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[10] and the Sendai Framework, while respecting the relevant mandates, in order to build synergies and resilience, and addressing the global challenge of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty;

18. *Urges* that due consideration continue to be given to the review of the global progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework as part of the integrated and coordinated follow-up processes to United Nations conferences and summits, aligned with the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the quadrennial comprehensive policy review cycles, as appropriate, taking into account the contributions of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and regional and subregional platforms for disaster risk reduction and the Sendai Framework monitor;

19. *Welcomes* the report of the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on indicators and terminology relating to disaster risk reduction,[15] and the establishment of common indicators and shared data sets to measure the Sendai Framework global targets and the disaster risk reduction targets of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 11 and 13 as an important contribution to ensure coherence, feasibility and consistency in implementation, collection of data and reporting;

20. *Looks forward* to the launch in early 2018 of the Sendai Framework monitor, and encourages States to use the online monitor to report on progress against the Sendai Framework global targets and the Sustainable Development Goals related to disaster risk;

21. *Reaffirms* that developing countries need enhanced provision of coordinated, sustained and adequate international support for disaster risk reduction, in particular for least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as middle-income countries facing specific challenges, through bilateral and multilateral channels, including through enhanced technical and financial support and technology transfer on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, for the development and strengthening of their capacities, as well as the sharing of best practices and other methods of capacity-building;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of giving priority to the development of local and national disaster risk reduction capacity-building, policies, strategies and plans over the next five years with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, in accordance with national practices and legislation;

23. *Also recognizes* that, while each State has the primary responsibility for preventing and reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between

[13] Resolution 70/1.
[14] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[15] A/71/644 and Corr.1.

Governments and relevant stakeholders, and also recognizes that non-State and other relevant stakeholders, including major groups, parliaments, civil society, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, non-governmental organizations, national platforms for disaster risk reduction, focal points for the Sendai Framework, local government representatives, scientific institutions and the private sector, as well as organizations and relevant agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions and intergovernmental organizations, play an important role as enablers in providing support to States, in accordance with national policies, laws and regulations, in the implementation of the Sendai Framework at the local, national, regional and global levels;

24. *Encourages* Governments to promote women's full, equal and effective participation and leadership in the design, management, resourcing and implementation of gender-responsive disaster risk reduction policies, plans and programmes;

25. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective and the perspectives of persons with disabilities in disaster risk management so as to strengthen the resilience of communities and reduce social vulnerabilities to disasters, and in this regard recognizes the need for the inclusive participation and contribution of women, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as the role of youth, volunteers, migrants, local communities, academia, scientific and research entities and networks, business, professional associations, private sector financing institutions and the media, in all forums and processes related to disaster risk reduction, in accordance with the Sendai Framework;

26. *Recognizes* that biological hazards require strengthened coordination between disaster and health risk management systems in the areas of risk assessment, surveillance and early warning, and that resilient health infrastructure and increasing the overall capacity of health systems reduces overall disaster risk and builds disaster resilience;

27. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Mexico for hosting the fifth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Cancun, Mexico, from 22 to 26 May 2017, acknowledges the Chair's summary and the Cancun high-level communiqué, and reaffirms the importance of the Global Platform as a forum to discuss progress on the Sendai Framework and advance coherence between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and climate adaptation;

28. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Canada, Fiji, Finland, India, Mauritius, Qatar and Tajikistan as hosts of the regional platforms for disaster risk reduction, recognizes the platforms as important mechanisms for cooperation to implement the Sendai Framework, and looks forward to the upcoming regional platforms and their deliberations, to be held in Colombia, Italy, Mongolia and Tunisia, as well as the upcoming sixth session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, to be hosted by Switzerland in 2019;

29. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation for disaster risk reduction includes a variety of sources and is a critical element in supporting the efforts of developing countries to reduce disaster risk, and encourages States to strengthen international and regional information exchange and sharing, promote critical technology research cooperation on disaster reduction and improve international coordination mechanisms to respond to large-scale natural disasters;

30. *Acknowledges* the importance of the work of the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations system and other relevant institutions in disaster

risk reduction, the substantial increase in demands on the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and the need for timely, stable and predictable resources necessary for supporting the implementation of the Sendai Framework;

31. *Recognizes* the continued importance of voluntary funding, and urges existing and new donors to provide sufficient funding, and where possible to augment financial contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework, preferably through unearmarked and, where possible, multi-annual contributions;

32. *Reaffirms* that investing in national and local skills, systems and knowledge to build resilience and preparedness will save lives, cut costs and preserve development gains, and in this regard encourages exploring innovative ways, including forecast-based financing and disaster risk insurance mechanisms, to increase the availability of resources for Member States before a disaster is credibly expected to occur;

33. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Disaster risk reduction".

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 17 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt sustainability and development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009, 65/144 of 20 December 2010, 66/189 of 22 December 2011, 67/198 of 21 December 2012, 68/202 of 20 December 2013, 69/207 of 19 December 2014, 70/190 of 22 December 2015 and 71/216 of 21 December 2016,

Taking note of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Please recycle

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

Recalling the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[3]

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledging that debt crises are costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting the poor and vulnerable in particular,

Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, is central to the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Reiterating that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as volatile commodity and energy prices and international capital flows, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of global growth and sluggish global trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, and stressing the need for continued efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand,

Recognizing that, in the context of sluggish global economic and trade growth, sustained net negative capital flows to developing countries, flat commodity prices with few or no signs of speedy recovery, an expected tightening of monetary policies in developed countries, and instances of debt distress or a high risk thereof in developing countries are likely to spread further,

Recognizing also the important role, on a case-by-case basis, of debt relief, including debt cancellation, as appropriate, and debt restructuring as debt crisis prevention, management and resolution tools,

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[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] Resolution 63/303, annex.

Stressing that the swift and flexible provision by creditors of debt restructuring, debt relief and debt cancellation measures is of particular importance for developing countries affected by natural disasters, as in the recent case of a number of small island developing States affected by a succession of hurricanes,

Expressing deep concern that a number of countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as some middle-income countries, face challenges in servicing their debt and that, in spite of international efforts, a growing number of developing countries continue to struggle with high debt burdens and are classified, in accordance with the debt sustainability assessments, as being in debt distress or at high risk of debt distress,

Recognizing that high investment requirements to meet the Sustainable Development Goals on schedule may put further pressure and stress on developing country debt sustainability,

Recognizing also that the remaining effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[4]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

4. *Notes* the growing concerns about fast-rising corporate debt, high-risk exposure to volatile international financial markets and fast-growing debt servicing burdens as potential triggers of financial and debt crises and the consequent need for coordinated policy responses;

5. *Stresses* the need to continue to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, taking into account the challenges posed by the global economic environment and risks for debt sustainability in some developed and developing countries;

6. *Acknowledges* the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for Low-Income Countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, looks forward to the conclusion of the ongoing review of the Framework, and encourages open and transparent consultations, with the full engagement of public and private creditors and borrowers, with a view to incorporating their concerns, where appropriate;

7. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgments about a country's debt sustainability, and, in view of the new challenges

[4] A/72/253.

and vulnerabilities for developing countries' external debt sustainability, substantiated by the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and recent joint analyses of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, stresses the need for improved data collection and quality in areas that include domestic public debt, domestic and external private debt, as well as legal and regulatory features, such as ownership, currency denomination and jurisdiction according to national priorities;

8. *Also reiterates* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect and release data, where appropriate, welcomes the ongoing work of relevant institutions to build new tools for monitoring financial stress in developing countries and to create a central data registry that includes information on debt restructuring, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

9. *Recalls* the need for the United Nations system, including the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund and other relevant stakeholders, to continue to conduct analytical activities and to provide policy advice and technical assistance to Governments, upon request, in the areas of managing debt, and operating and maintaining databases, and in this regard requests that the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development be enhanced;

10. *Stresses* the need to strengthen information-sharing and transparency to make sure that debt sustainability assessments are based on comprehensive, objective and reliable data, including an assessment of national public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, and encourages further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

11. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, the mobilization of domestic and international resources, the export prospects of debtor countries, sustainable debt management, sound macroeconomic policies that also support job creation, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks and success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence on the creation of an enabling environment at all levels that is conducive to development, and also recognizes the need to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability;

12. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that were not part of the existing debt relief initiatives now have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, indicating a need to consider, as appropriate, stronger debt management initiatives for those countries, and stresses the importance of medium- and long-term debt sustainability to deal with debt, including bilateral and non-Paris Club debt;

13. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy the full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute to debt workouts, as appropriate, in order to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, and invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including through providing comparable treatment, to the extent possible, to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors;

14. *Stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of developing countries, including the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, when applicable, to address the debt problem of those countries, acknowledges that sound debt management initiatives can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and with the promotion of sustained economic growth and development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards achieving those objectives, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[5] according to their national priorities and strategies;

15. *Notes* that countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of a debt crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

16. *Acknowledges* the efforts of, and invites creditors to provide additional flexibility to, developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their national debt concerns, while taking into account their specific economic and social situations and needs;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of the creation of robust, nationally appropriate legal and regulatory frameworks for sustainable national and municipal borrowing, on the basis of sustainable debt management, supported by adequate revenues and capacities, by means of local creditworthiness, as well as expanded sustainable municipal debt markets, when appropriate, and in this regard underlines the importance of the establishment of appropriate financial intermediaries for urban financing, such as regional, national, subnational and local development funds or development banks, including pooled financing mechanisms, which can catalyse public and private, national and international financing;

18. *Underlines* the importance of multilateral efforts to tackle increasingly complex cross-border challenges that have serious effects on development and debt sustainability;

19. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations and of the international financial institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained and inclusive growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

20. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledges that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, recognizes the applicable requirements of the debt limits policy of the International Monetary Fund and/or the non-concessional borrowing policy of the World Bank and the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to

[5] Resolution 70/1.

enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and resolves to work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

21. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Sustainable Development Goal projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

22. *Welcomes* the holding of the eleventh International Debt Management Conference by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and encourages the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its analytical and policy work and technical assistance on debt issues and to promote policies for responsible sovereign borrowing and lending, complementing the work done by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and other stakeholders, as appropriate;

23. *Expresses its concern* regarding the ability of non-cooperative minority bondholders to disrupt the will of the large majority of bondholders who accept a restructuring of a debt-crisis country's obligations, given the potential broader implications in other countries, notes legislative steps taken by certain countries to prevent these activities and encourage all Governments to take action, as appropriate, and, furthermore, takes note of discussions in the United Nations on debt issues;

24. *Welcomes* the reforms to pari passu and collective action clauses proposed by the International Capital Market Association and endorsed by the International Monetary Fund to reduce the vulnerability of sovereigns to holdout creditors, encourages countries to take further action to include those clauses in all their bond issuances, and welcomes the continued work of the International Monetary Fund to monitor the uptake of the clauses and explore options for resolving the issue with the outstanding stock of debt without such clauses;

25. *Calls for* further work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

26. *Reaffirms* its resolution 69/319 of 10 September 2015, entitled "Basic Principles on Sovereign Debt Restructuring Processes";

27. *Notes* that the United Nations, as a universal intergovernmental body, has provided a platform for both creditors and debtors to discuss ways to improve external debt sustainability, encourages the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up to continue such discussions, within its mandate, and in this regard invites continued ongoing cooperation among the international financial institutions, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular the International Monetary Fund, relevant United Nations entities, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and other relevant forums, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter;

28. *Welcomes* the establishment and terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in this regard requests that the outcome of its work be presented as a regular input to the forum on financing for

development follow-up, and recommends that debt sustainability challenges to developing countries become a regular annual theme of the deliberations of the forum;

29. *Reiterates* the invitation to the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating the financial and macroeconomic stability of developing countries, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

30. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their provision of concessional and grant-based financing to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and notes the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to eligible developing countries in the form of zero-interest loans;

31. Invites the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable upstream and downstream debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

32. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of activities relating to capacity-building and to early warning monitoring systems in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

33. *Recognizes* the contribution made by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in launching a range of multi-stakeholder consultations on, inter alia, sovereign debt restructuring to solicit views of Member States, including experts from academia, policymakers and representatives of the private sector, with a view to enriching a global discourse on these matters, and looks forward to future deliberations of this nature;

34. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

35. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States to fully implement the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito in 2016;[6]

36. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

[6] Resolution 71/256, annex.

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in his report an assessment of the potential impact of investment requirements to meet the Sustainable Development Goals on developing countries' external debt sustainability, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development".

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Agenda item 17 (f)
Macroeconomic policy questions: promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development

Ecuador* draft resolution

Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 71/213 of 21 December 2016,

Reiterating its deep concern about the impact of illicit financial flows, in particular those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime, on the economic, social and political stability and development of societies, and especially on developing countries,

Noting that a large proportion of the proceeds of corruption, including those emanating from transnational bribery and other forms of illicit flows, has yet to be returned to requesting States with a view to, inter alia, returning such property to the prior legitimate owners, and stressing that the recovery and return of illicit assets to requesting States will enhance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1]

Noting with concern the steady increase in funds of illicit origin flowing from developing countries in particular and the danger that such increase poses to sustainable development and the rule of law,

Noting that developing countries are those which are the most susceptible to the negative impact of illicit financial flows,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 70/1.

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Please recycle

Recognizing the challenge posed by the increasing scope and complexity of illicit financial flows and the slow pace of the process of recovering and returning assets, which necessitates the strengthening of international cooperation on this matter, taking into account the pertinent provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[2]

Stressing that the non-repatriation of illicit financial flows from destination countries to source countries in a timely and collaborative manner undermines the right to development, as it deprives developing countries of resources required for them to progressively achieve sustainable development and implement social and economic investment programmes aimed at eradicating poverty,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which is the most comprehensive and universal instrument on corruption, and recognizing the need to continue to promote its ratification or accession thereto and its full and effective implementation, including full support for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Recalling its resolution 60/207 of 22 December 2005 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Recalling also its resolutions 69/199 of 18 December 2014 and 71/208 of 19 December 2016 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of proceeds of corruption, facilitating asset recovery and returning such assets to legitimate owners, in particular to countries of origin, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Noting with appreciation the ongoing efforts by regional organizations and other relevant international forums to strengthen cooperation in combating illicit financial flows, particularly those caused by tax evasion, corruption and transnational organized crime,

Recognizing the need to scale up the level of cooperation to curb illicit financial flows and recover the proceeds of crime, including embezzled public

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

funds, stolen assets and unaccounted-for assets that are found in safe havens, and to demonstrate a strong commitment to ensuring the return of such assets to the countries of origin,

Commending the report of the High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows from Africa for its ground-breaking role in increasing knowledge on the scourge of illicit financial flows, and reiterating its invitation to other regions to carry out similar exercises,

Taking note of the 2017 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,[3]

Recognizing the efforts of the Group of 20 in combating illicit financial flows and countering corruption at both the global and national levels, taking note with appreciation of the anti-corruption initiatives outlined in the Group of 20 Hangzhou Summit communiqué,[4] and urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage other Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in its work in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure that Group of 20 initiatives complement or strengthen the work being undertaken by the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Welcomes* the inclusion in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[1] of, inter alia, the target related to combating illicit financial flows and strengthening the recovery and return of stolen assets, recalls that the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets are integrated and indivisible and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development, and, in this regard, looks forward to their achievement;

2. *Also welcomes* the inclusion in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[5] of actions intended to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets, and in this regard looks forward to their implementation;

3. *Further welcomes* efforts to broaden knowledge and share best practices on combating illicit financial flows and enhancing asset recovery to foster sustainable development by Member States, particularly those related to the initiatives of Ethiopia and Switzerland and of Nigeria and Norway;

4. *Urges* States parties, while pursuing settlements and other alternative legal mechanisms, to proactively share information in accordance with article 46, paragraph 4, article 48, paragraph 1 (f), and article 56 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[2] and involve countries of origin early in the process;

5. *Urges* States parties that are pursuing settlements and other alternative legal mechanisms in transnational bribery cases to afford the countries of origin the widest measure of cooperation and assistance;

6. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols

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[3] *Financing for Development: Progress and Prospects* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.17.I.5).

[4] A/71/380, annex.

[5] Resolution 69/313, annex.

thereto,[6] and also urges States parties to those conventions and protocols to make efforts towards their effective implementation;

7. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Urges* developed countries and multilateral and international organizations to provide, upon request, technical assistance and capacity-building assistance to developing countries to improve their capacity to combat illicit financial flows and enhance the return of stolen assets;

9. *Urges* Member States, consistent with domestic legal systems, to encourage the simplification of evidentiary requirements and other mutual legal assistance procedures to enhance international cooperation in the recovery of stolen assets;

10. *Notes with concern* that only a small portion of frozen assets is returned to the countries of origin, in that regard calls upon Member States to ensure that illicit financial flows, when tracked, are dealt with in accordance with their national legal systems and relevant international legal obligations with the aim of returning frozen assets to the requesting States, and invites Member States to consider options, such as the possibility of transferring frozen assets to escrow accounts pending their return to requesting States;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to consider the possibility of waiving or reducing to the barest minimum the processes for and costs of recovering stolen assets, in particular by reducing the administrative and legal obstacles to their effective recovery;

12. *Recognizes* that the range of issues related to illicit financial flows, including abusive transfer pricing, trade mis-invoicing, tax evasion, aggressive tax avoidance, double taxation, harmful tax incentives, unfair contracts, financial secrecy, money-laundering, smuggling, trafficking and abuse of entrusted power and their interrelationships, makes it a technically complex subject, while stressing, however, that success in addressing illicit financial flows and strengthening the recovery and return of stolen assets is also an issue of political will and that the nature of actors, the cross-border character of the phenomenon and the effect of illicit financial flows on state and society require a global consensus and a concerted political response;

13. *Urges* States parties, in accordance with article 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to take appropriate measures, within their means and in accordance with the fundamental principles of their domestic laws, to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence of, the causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption, and encourages States parties to enhance the capacity of such individuals and groups in this regard;

14. *Requests* the President of General Assembly to convene a conference on illicit financial flows and asset recovery in the first quarter of 2018 with the objective of deliberating on what concrete actions should be taken to strengthen international cooperation and to consider possible follow-up steps in this regard, including the possibility of establishing mechanisms on the very important issue of

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

illicit financial flows and the recovery and return of stolen assets, while recognizing that any decision on follow-up steps should be made by consensus;

15. *Decides* to give consideration, as appropriate, to combating illicit financial flows and strengthening of recovery and return of stolen assets in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in the follow-up process of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

16. *Calls for* greater international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and enhance asset recovery, and calls upon States parties to pledge to deter, detect, prevent and counter corruption and crime and to increase transparency and promote good governance, which contribute to fostering sustainable development;

17. *Expresses* its support for the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other institutions, to develop a methodology to produce an estimate of the total value of inward and outward illicit financial flows, and calls upon the Office to inform Member States as to the stage of that work;

18. *Encourages* the Bank for International Settlements to provide relevant data on international banking assets by country of origin and destination in more accessible formats, such as along the lines of the data published by the International Monetary Fund for bilateral trade, foreign direct investment and portfolio investment, so that the data can be used to inform the analysis of illicit financial flows;

19. *Urges* States parties that are using settlements and other alternative legal mechanisms to resolve cases related to transnational bribery to ensure that the new mechanisms do not hinder the process of international cooperation on asset recovery or jeopardize the implementation of chapter V of the United Nations Convention against Corruption;

20. *Invites* Member States to sustain dialogue and take necessary action to combat illicit financial flows and enhance asset recovery;

21. *Calls upon* Member States to consider establishing or strengthening the independent institutions and agencies of government responsible for preventing illicit financial flows and strengthening asset recovery, in accordance with their national legal systems, national plans and priorities and relevant international legal obligations;

22. *Looks forward* to the inclusion, in the 2018 report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, of an analysis of the theme of the present resolution, pursuant to the mandate of the Task Force, and also looks forward to the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen asset recovery in order to foster sustainable development".

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Second Committee
Agenda item 17 (a)
Macroeconomic policy questions: international trade and development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/178 of 21 December 2001, 57/235 of 20 December 2002, 58/197 of 23 December 2003, 63/203 of 19 December 2008, 66/185 of 22 December 2011, 67/196 of 21 December 2012, 68/199 of 20 December 2013, 69/205 of 19 December 2014, 70/187 of 22 December 2015 and 71/214 of 21 December 2016,

Taking note of its resolutions 59/221 of 22 December 2004, 60/184 of 22 December 2005, 61/186 of 20 December 2006, 62/184 of 19 December 2007, 64/188 of 21 December 2009 and 65/142 of 20 December 2010,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development[1] and the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

2. *Reaffirms* that international trade remains an engine for inclusive growth and poverty eradication and that it contributes to the promotion of sustainable development, structural transformation and industrialization, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Also reaffirms* the commitments made through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[3] in, inter alia, international trade as an important action area for sustainable development;

4. *Recommits* to promoting a universal, rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization, as well as meaningful trade liberalization;

5. *Welcomes* the convening of the Eleventh Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization in Buenos Aires from 10 to 13 December 2017, looks forward to a successful development-oriented outcome, and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Argentina for hosting the meeting;

6. *Takes note* of the convening of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and welcomes its outcome documents;[4]

7. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

8. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International trade and development".

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[1] A/72/15 (Parts I-IV).
[2] A/72/274.
[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[4] TD/519 and Add.1 and 2 and Add.2/Corr.1.

United Nations A/C.2/72/L.18

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 18
Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 70/192 of 22 December 2015 and 71/217 of 21 December 2016 on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and its resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[1] supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 70/1.

Please recycle

Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as the specific challenges faced by middle-income countries,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Committing, in this regard, to supporting the implementation of the relevant programmes of action as an integral part of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Welcoming the convening of the second annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up from 22 to 25 May 2017,

Welcoming also the appointment of the members of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters with increased representation of experts from developing countries,

Recalling the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,[2] which decided that the third forum would convene from 23 to 26 April 2018 and would include the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,

1. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of all the commitments included in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[3]

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the first substantive report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,[4] and notes that progress can be reported in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while acknowledging that many implementation gaps remain;

3. *Welcomes* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2017 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,[2] urges their full, effective and timely implementation, and looks forward to staying engaged so as to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges in the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in

[2] See E/FFDF/2017/3.

[3] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[4] *Financing for Development: Progress and Prospects* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.17.I.5).

substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2018 forum;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Looks forward* to the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2018 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

6. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to begin early planning of the 2018 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

7. *Recalls* that decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;

8. *Welcomes* the holding of the 2017 Global Infrastructure Forum in Washington, D.C., on 22 April 2017, and reiterates that the Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries, considering that these countries are the ones most affected by a lack of sustainable and resilient infrastructure, while facing serious financing challenges due to insufficient access to resources from both the public and private sectors, resulting in a wider global infrastructure gap;

9. *Welcomes* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the holding of the first annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which is important, inter alia, in helping to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Goals, looks forward to the establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism, and welcomes the progress made in operationalizing the technology bank for the least developed countries;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the convening of the second annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in New York on 15 and 16 May 2017, whose Co-Chairs' summary[5] served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, and in this regard requests the President of the General Assembly to convene briefings by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum for Member States, which shall take place no later than January 2018, on the recommendations contained in the Co-Chairs' summary with regard to the next steps for the multi-stakeholder forum;

11. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up;

[5] See E/HLPF/2017/4.

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report elaborating proposals on thematic issues to be addressed in future reports of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development, in consultation with the Task Force and taking into consideration the deliberations of the second and upcoming third sessions of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up and new and emerging topics of relevance, with wide consultation with Member States during the preparation process, for its consideration and appropriate action, including providing substantive guidance on thematic issues to be covered in future reports of the Task Force;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy third session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development".

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General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 17 (b)
Macroeconomic policy questions: international financial system and development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity", as well as its resolutions 57/241 of 20 December 2002, 58/202 of 23 December 2003, 59/222 of 22 December 2004, 60/186 of 22 December 2005, 61/187 of 20 December 2006, 62/185 of 19 December 2007, 63/205 of 19 December 2008, 64/190 of 21 December 2009, 65/143 of 20 December 2010, 66/187 of 22 December 2011, 67/197 of 21 December 2012, 68/201 of 20 December 2013, 69/206 of 19 December 2014, 70/188 of 22 December 2015 and 71/215 of 21 December 2016,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong

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political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[2] the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[3] Agenda 21,[4] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[6]

Recalling also the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008,[7]

Recalling further the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[8]

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the United Nations in the area of external debt sustainability and development,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[9]

Recognizing the work undertaken by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, and taking note of its progress report,[10]

Recalling the high-level thematic debate on the state of the world economy and finance and its impact on development, convened by the President of the General Assembly on 17 and 18 May 2012,

Recalling also the meeting of the Second Committee, held pursuant to resolution 67/197, on 13 November 2013, to discuss actions in response to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development and prospects for restoring confidence and economic growth,

Recalling further the importance of the Summit of the Group of 20, held in Hangzhou, China, on 4 and 5 September 2016, which was the first Summit of the Group of 20 to take place in a developing country following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with the broad participation of

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[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[4] Ibid., annex II.

[5] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[7] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[8] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[9] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[10] A/64/884.

developing countries, and including the Chair of the Group of 77, and which endorsed the Group of 20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as an important contribution to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and looking forward to its implementation, while urging the Group of 20 to continue to engage in an inclusive and transparent manner with all States in its work in order to ensure that initiatives of the Group of 20 complement or strengthen the United Nations system,

Concerned about addressing the effects of the world financial and economic crisis so as to avoid its recurrence and continue to promote the global economic stability and underlying institutional reforms required to ensure sustained, inclusive and equitable global economic growth for the benefit of all countries,

Recognizing that the effects of the world financial and economic crisis have the potential to undermine the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in many countries, especially developing countries,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the continuing fragility of global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including net negative capital flows from some emerging and developing economies, continued low commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date to attend to these challenges and to make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Recalling the commitment to work in solidarity on a coordinated and comprehensive global response to the effects of the consequences of the world financial and economic crisis on development and to take actions aimed at, inter alia, restoring confidence, sustaining economic growth and creating full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including young people and people with disabilities, and equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming the purposes of the United Nations, as set forth in its Charter, including to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends, and reiterating the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting development,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should bolster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, sustainable development and job creation, promote financial inclusion and support efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and hunger, in particular in developing countries, while allowing for the coherent mobilization of all sources of financing for development,

Recognizing the importance of scaling up international tax cooperation, and in this regard welcoming the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the support to tax authorities of developing countries through the Addis Tax Initiative, which contribute to the mobilization of domestic resources for the Sustainable Development Goals and the curbing of illicit financial flows and tax evasion,

Recognizing also the need to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations, and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings in order to improve the quality of ratings, acknowledging the efforts of the Financial Stability Board and others in this area, expressing support for establishing greater transparency requirements for evaluation standards of credit-rating agencies, and affirming the commitment to continue ongoing work on these issues,

Recognizing further the contribution of the first and second Panel of Eminent Persons of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in the context of the United Nations sustainable development pillar and United Nations reform, as well as the contribution of the United Nations system to sustainable finance and investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, including through the informal expert advisory group of the President of the General Assembly at its seventieth session, and recognizing further the contribution of the independent team of advisers to the Economic and Social Council dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Acknowledging that the quota and governance reforms agreed at the International Monetary Fund in 2010 became effective in January 2016, and acknowledging also that, in October 2016, the Chinese renminbi officially became the fifth currency in the special drawing rights basket, pursuant to the decision taken by the Executive Board of the Fund in November 2015,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Recognizes* the need to continue and intensify efforts to enhance the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, reiterates the importance of ensuring their openness, fairness and inclusiveness in order to complement national efforts to ensure sustainable development, including strong, sustained, balanced, inclusive and equitable economic growth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] and encourages the international financial institutions to align their programmes and policies with the 2030 Agenda in accordance with their mandates;

3. *Also recognizes* that the United Nations, on the basis of its universal membership and legitimacy, provides a unique and key forum for discussing international economic issues and their impact on development, and reaffirms that the United Nations is well positioned to participate in various reform processes aimed at improving and strengthening the effective functioning of the international financial system and architecture, while recognizing that the United Nations and the international financial institutions have complementary mandates that make the coordination of their actions crucial;

4. *Further recognizes* the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the financial and economic crisis, and recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote the economic recovery, to manage the consequences of volatility in global financial and commodity markets, to tackle high unemployment and indebtedness in several

[11] A/72/306.

[12] Resolution 70/1.

countries, as well as widespread fiscal strains, to reinforce the banking sector, including by increasing its transparency and accountability, to address systemic fragilities and imbalances, to reform and strengthen the international financial system and to continue and to enhance the coordination of financial and economic policies at the international level;

5. *Stresses* the critical importance of a stable and inclusive global economic environment for the advancement of sustainable development, for the reliable and effective financing of development and for the implementation of Agenda 2030, mobilizing public and private, as well as domestic and international resources;

6. *Further recognizes* the importance, in particular, of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external debt sustainability arising from structural changes to overall debt composition, the rapid growth of private sector debt in many emerging and developing countries and the growing use of new debt financing instruments and approaches;

7. *Reiterates* that debtors and creditors must work together to prevent and resolve unsustainable debt situations and that maintaining sustainable debt levels is the responsibility of the borrowing countries, acknowledging, however, that lenders also have a responsibility to lend in a way that does not undermine a country's debt sustainability, and in this regard takes note of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development principles on responsible sovereign lending and borrowing and recognizes the applicable requirements of the International Monetary Fund debt limits policy and/or the World Bank non-concessional borrowing policy, as well as the safeguards of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in its statistical system to enhance the debt sustainability of recipient countries, and will work towards a global consensus on guidelines for debtor and creditor responsibilities in borrowing by and lending to sovereigns, building on existing initiatives;

8. *Requests*, in this regard, the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General to give appropriate consideration to the central role of maintaining and facilitating developing country financial and macroeconomic stability, including debt sustainability, and of supporting an appropriately enabling domestic and international economic, financial and regulatory environment for the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard invites all major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to support these efforts, in accordance with their respective mandates;

9. *Requests*, in this regard, the Economic and Social Council to consider, at its annual forum on financing for development follow-up, a discussion and analysis of systemic issues and challenges, taking into account the roles of the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates, pursuant to the relevant resolutions on this matter, including its resolution 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the mandate of the annual forum on financing for development follow-up set out therein;

10. *Resolves* to strengthen the coherence and consistency of multilateral financial, investment, trade and development policy and environment institutions and platforms and to increase cooperation between major international institutions, while respecting mandates and governance structures, and commits itself to taking better advantage of relevant United Nations forums for promoting universal and holistic coherence and international commitments to sustainable development, building on the vision of the Monterrey Consensus;

11. *Affirms* the importance of ensuring the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems, with a view to supporting the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

12. *Recalls* that countries must have the flexibility necessary to implement countercyclical measures and pursue tailored and targeted responses to the various types of shocks, including economic and financial crises, and calls for conditionalities to be streamlined to ensure that they are timely, tailored and targeted and that they support developing countries in the face of financial, economic and development challenges;

13. *Notes*, in this regard, the increase in resources and the improvement of the lending framework of the International Monetary Fund through, inter alia, streamlined conditions and flexible instruments, such as the precautionary and liquidity line, the flexible credit line and the rapid financing instrument, and the refinement of the lending framework for low-income countries, while also noting that new and ongoing programmes should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities;

14. *Encourages*, in this regard, the multilateral development banks to continue to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

15. *Also encourages* multilateral development banks, within their respective mandates, to continue to expand technical assistance, disseminate and share their knowledge and best practices and enhance the multiplier effect of their financing by leveraging more resources from more sources, including by mobilizing private investment, to provide innovative and integral solutions to multidimensional development problems, in particular in developing and emerging economies;

16. *Invites* the multilateral development banks and other international development banks to continue providing both concessional and non-concessional stable, long-term development finance by leveraging contributions and capital and by mobilizing resources from capital markets, and stresses that development banks should make optimal use of their resources and balance sheets, consistent with maintaining their financial integrity, and should update and develop their policies in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as appropriate;

17. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the ongoing work of the New Development Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in the global development finance architecture, and encourages enhanced regional and subregional cooperation, including through regional and subregional development banks, commercial and reserve currency arrangements and other regional and subregional initiatives;

18. *Emphasizes* the relevance of inclusion in the international financial system at all levels and the importance of considering financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

19. *Recommits* to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting and in global economic governance, recognizes the importance that the International Monetary Fund continues to be adequately resourced, and supports and

reiterates its commitment to further governance reform at both the Fund and the World Bank to adapt to changes in the global economy;

20. *Calls for* the completion of the fifteenth general review of quotas of the International Monetary Fund, including a new quota formula, by the meetings to be held in the second quarter of 2019 and no later than the annual meetings to be held in 2019, emphasizes that the new quota formula, as a basis for a realignment of quota shares, which will result in increased shares for dynamic economies in line with their relative positions in the world economy and hence likely in the share of emerging market and developing countries as a whole, while protecting the voice and representation of the poorest members, and supports the continued examination of the broader use of special drawing rights as a way to enhance the resilience of the international monetary system;

21. *Acknowledges* the importance of the international financial institutions supporting, in line with their mandates, the policy space of each country, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, in particular developing countries, and recommits to the broadening and strengthening of the voice and participation of developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post conflict situations, in international economic decision-making, norm-setting and global economic governance;

22. *Recognizes* that there are continued risks to financial stability, which suggests a need to continue to implement agreed reforms of the international financial and monetary system;

23. *Reaffirms* that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts, reiterates that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, expresses respect for each country's policy space and leadership to implement policies for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and for sustainable development, while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, at the same time recognizes that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance and that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, and commits to pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors, and to reinvigorating the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development;

24. *Recommits* to a redoubling of its efforts to substantially curb illicit financial flows by 2030, with a view to eventually eliminating them, including by combating tax evasion and corruption through strengthened national regulation and increased international cooperation, to reducing opportunities for tax avoidance and considering inserting anti-abuse clauses in all tax treaties, to enhancing disclosure practices and transparency in both source and destination countries, including by seeking to ensure transparency in all financial transactions between Governments and companies, with respect to relevant tax authorities, and to making sure that all companies, including multinationals, pay taxes to the Governments of the countries where economic activity occurs and value is created, in accordance with national and international laws and policies;

25. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue its existing programme of meetings and consultations with States on investment agreements and investment policies that promote a better understanding of issues related to international investment agreements and their development dimensions, in accordance with its mandate;

26. *Recognizes* the role of special drawing rights as an international reserve asset, acknowledges that special drawing rights allocations helped to supplement international reserves in response to the world financial and economic crisis, thus contributing to the stability of the international financial system and global economic resilience, and also recognizes the need to continue regular reviews of the role of special drawing rights, including with reference to their potential role in the international reserve system;

27. *Takes note* of the work by the Financial Stability Board on financial market reform, commits to sustaining or strengthening frameworks for macroprudential regulation and countercyclical buffers, reaffirms the commitment to hasten completion of the reform agenda on financial market regulation, including assessing and if necessary reducing the systemic risks associated with shadow banking, markets for derivatives, securities lending and repurchase agreements, and also reaffirms the commitment to addressing the risk created by "too-big-to-fail" financial institutions and to addressing cross-border elements in effective resolution of troubled, systemically important financial institutions;

28. *Reiterates* that effective, inclusive multilateral surveillance should be at the centre of crisis prevention efforts, stresses the need to continue to strengthen surveillance of the financial policies of countries, and in this regard notes the new surveillance approach of the International Monetary Fund to better integrate bilateral and multilateral surveillance, along with cross-border and cross-sectoral linkages with macroeconomic and macroprudential policies, while paying closer attention to the spillover effects from national economic and financial policies onto the global economy;

29. *Also reiterates* the need to resolve to reduce mechanistic reliance on credit-rating agency assessments, including in regulations and to promote increased competition as well as measures to avoid conflict of interest in the provision of credit ratings;

30. *Invites* the international financial and banking institutions to continue to enhance the transparency of risk-rating mechanisms, noting that sovereign risk assessments should maximize the use of objective and transparent parameters, which can be facilitated by high-quality data and analysis, and encourages relevant institutions, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue their work on the issue, including the potential impact of the role played by private credit rating agencies on the development prospects of developing countries, in accordance with their mandates;

31. *Welcomes* efforts by new development banks to develop safeguard systems in open consultation with stakeholders on the basis of established international standards, and encourages all development banks to establish or maintain social and environmental safeguard systems, including on human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment, that are transparent, effective, efficient and time-sensitive;

32. *Recognizes* the need for the international financial institutions, as appropriate, to promote gender mainstreaming in their policies and programmes, including macroeconomic, job creation and structural reform policies and programmes, in accordance with relevant national priorities and strategies;

33. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions and regional development banks, within their respective mandates, to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

34. *Recommits* itself to enabling women's full and equal participation in the economy and their equal access to decision-making processes and leadership;

35. *Reiterates* that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;[13]

36. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

37. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution to be prepared with input from the major institutional stakeholders, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with their respective mandates;

38. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

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[13] Resolution 3201 (S-VI).

United Nations A/C.2/72/L.20

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (c)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: human resources development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005, 62/207 of 19 December 2007, 64/218 of 21 December 2009, 66/217 of 22 December 2011, 68/228 of 20 December 2013 and 70/220 of 22 December 2015,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Please recycle

Stressing that human resources development lies at the heart of economic, social and environmental development and that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Stressing also that human resources development is vital to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries, and also recognizing the need for new ways to address human resources development,

Stressing that human resources development is even more critical in view of the current global challenges, including, despite evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis, in order to tackle the negative effects of the global crisis and set the basis for sustained, inclusive and equitable growth and recovery,

Stressing also that climate change is a significant development challenge and that improving educational and institutional capacities to tackle climate change is closely linked to human resources development efforts to ensure that populations can lead healthy and prosperous lives,

Recognizing that the benefits of human resources development are best realized in national and international environments that support equality of opportunity and treatment, access to education and non-discrimination and maintain an enabling environment for job creation,

Recognizing also that despite evidence of an uneven and fragile recovery, the ongoing adverse impacts, particularly on development, of the world financial and economic crisis continue to diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Recognizing the need to align science, technological knowledge and innovation systems with national development objectives, fully integrated with national human resources development, labour needs and poverty eradication strategies and supported by appropriate institutional and policy frameworks, which can lead to positive transformations in people's lives,

Acknowledging that science, technological knowledge and innovation policies should take into account the specific features of the economy in developing countries, including the size of the traditional sector, the importance of indigenous knowledge, the limited access to skilled labour and capital, weak infrastructure and inadequate institutional frameworks, in order to generate solutions that address the

specific challenges of those countries and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and indigenous and local knowledge,

Stressing that rapid technological changes and breakthroughs in fields such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, robotics, nanotechnology, three-dimensional printing, genetics and biotechnology are expanding at an exponential pace and shaping the world of work and that, in this regard, the development of human resources needs to keep pace,

Stressing also that renewed attention should be paid to the impacts of technological and scientific advances on human resources development and to the development of proactive strategies and investments for inclusive human resources development, supported by national normative frameworks that address emerging issues in the future of work, education and training,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Recognizing that education is the key to promoting the development of human potential, equality and understanding among peoples, as well as to sustaining economic growth and eradicating poverty, and recognizing also that, to achieve those ends, it is essential that quality education be available to all, including indigenous peoples, girls and women, rural inhabitants and persons with disabilities,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development, and the need for continued support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

Stressing also the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Calls upon* States to place human resources development at the core of economic and social development and to develop short-, medium- and long-term strategies to effectively enhance their human resources capacities, as educated, skilled, healthy, capable, productive and flexible workforces are the foundation for achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development;

3. *Stresses* the need for States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in order to address structural and multidimensional challenges to enhancing national productive capacities and to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

4. *Recognizes* that comprehensive approaches to human resources development that address poverty eradication and the creation of a skilled workforce are also critical in reducing unemployment and brain drain and in promoting greater social inclusion;

[1] A/72/292.

5. *Also recognizes* that the future of work, shaped by progress in science and technology, requires a shift towards lifelong learning and a transformation towards comprehensive, life-cycle approaches to education and training and that, in a world of work that is changing at an ever faster pace, adaptability and the willingness to reskill are key to success in matching trends in the global economy;

6. *Encourages* States, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to take appropriate steps, in accordance with their plans and policies, to help individuals to make well-informed choices in education, training and careers, develop an integrated high-quality system of education and training that responds to constantly evolving needs, promote employer recognition and career development based on skills and mastery and foster a culture that supports and celebrates lifelong learning, in order to provide opportunities for all to develop their fullest potential throughout life, regardless of their starting points, thereby improving their chances of staying gainfully employed, and calls for more effective support for developing countries in this regard, including from the United Nations system;

7. *Encourages* States to adopt and implement comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between equality, education, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy;

8. *Stresses* that human resources development policies should focus on supporting the emergence of a sufficiently wide and flexible pool of skilled human resources, especially among women and youth, to support all sectors of the economy and be matched with present and future workforce needs, which requires well-sequenced investments in basic education, vocational training, on-the-job training and more advanced managerial, engineering and scientific education to increase the supply of technological knowledge that can be absorbed by national innovation systems;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for States to adopt cross-sectoral approaches and mechanisms to identify human resources development needs in the medium and long term for all sectors of the economy and to formulate and implement policies and programmes to address those needs;

10. *Recognizes* that comprehensive and flexible science, technological knowledge and innovation strategies that encompass all sectors of the economy are critical to ensuring that skills are matched with labour market demand and ready to adapt to and benefit from a constantly evolving technology landscape;

11. *Emphasizes* that when science, technological knowledge and innovation and human resources development approaches are mutually reinforcing they can lead to a virtuous circle of economic growth, human progress and sustainable development;

12. *Also emphasizes* the importance of learning new skills faster in the context of rapid technological progress, and therefore stresses the need for early childhood education and lifelong learning skills, including through increased investment in teacher training and improved access to digital learning resources, especially in developing countries;

13. *Stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on physical and social infrastructure, including education, in particular skills upgrading and vocational training in areas such as science and technology, including information and

communications technology, as well as in capacity development, health and sustainable development;

14. *Encourages* States, as appropriate, to continue to strengthen comprehensive social protection systems, to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets and protect vulnerable groups and to take other appropriate actions, including boosting domestic consumption and production, recognizes that social protection floors, defined according to national priorities and the individual circumstances of States, can provide systemic approaches to addressing poverty and vulnerability and can contribute significantly to successful human resources development strategies, acknowledges, in this regard, that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and in this regard recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

15. *Encourages* States to consider policies consistent with the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and their obligations under all relevant ratified conventions of the International Labour Organization, and recalls the importance of promoting decent work for all and of increasing quality jobs, including through measures aimed at ensuring occupational health and safety and through working relationships based on effective social dialogue;

16. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States in fully implementing the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito in 2016;[2]

17. *Stresses* that human resources development strategies should include measures aimed at reducing unemployment and underemployment among young men and women and the long-term unemployed, who have been disproportionately affected by slow growth in jobs recovery, and to integrate underutilized human resources into the labour market through policies that promote skills development and productivity and reduce barriers to employment, including gender barriers, including by providing incentives as appropriate for recruiting, retaining and retooling, assistance in job-finding and job-matching and vocational and on-the-job training, and by promoting, inter alia, youth entrepreneurship, noting in this regard the call for action by the International Labour Conference in 2012;

18. *Also stresses* the need for States to retain and further enhance national human resources by boosting job-rich recovery and promoting decent work, including by adopting policies and incentives that enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment and entrepreneurship and strengthen the role of labour administration and institutions in order to foster job creation, address the gender wage gap, reduce occupational segregation and increase the participation of vulnerable groups, including workers in the informal economy;

19. *Emphasizes* the need to address the interlinkages among human resources development, energy and food security, agriculture and rural development, and encourages States to strengthen capacity in agriculture and rural development;

20. *Encourages* States to adopt and implement human resources development policies that create dynamic capabilities and core skills so as to develop, facilitate access to and apply environmentally sound technologies, and welcomes the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,[1] based on a multi-stakeholder collaboration among

[1] Resolution 71/256, annex.

[2] Resolution 69/313, annex, para. 123.

States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other stakeholders, in order to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

21. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls upon States to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, by considering promoting universal health coverage and through the exchange of best practices in the areas of strengthening health systems, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe, effective and good-quality medicine, and in this regard stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

22. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases, in particular in Africa, as well as the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, which is a challenge of epidemic proportions, and their effects on human resources;

23. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities to support national efforts to build institutional capacities to address long-term national human resources development needs in addition to providing training to individuals;

24. *Calls upon* the international community to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community, including the private sector and relevant civil society actors, to provide and mobilize financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and to supply expertise from all sources, as available;

25. *Calls for* steps to integrate gender perspectives into human resources development, including through policies, strategies and targeted actions aimed at promoting women's capacities and access to productive activities, and in this regard emphasizes the need to ensure the full participation of women in the formulation and implementation of such policies, strategies and actions;

26. *Stresses* the important contributions of the public and private sectors, respectively, in meeting national training and education needs to support the efficient functioning of enterprises and matching the needs of a rapidly changing economy, and encourages the integration of those contributions, including through the greater use of public-private partnerships and incentives;

27. *Calls for* actions at the national, regional and international levels that will give high priority to improving and expanding literacy, as well as science proficiency, including by providing tertiary, technical vocational and adult education, and stresses the need to ensure that, by 2030, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and will have equal access to all levels of education;

28. *Encourages* Governments to consider appropriate measures at the national level, such as upgrading human skills, better aligning educational and training systems to labour market needs and strengthening labour institutions and regulations to respond to economic downturns;

29. *Encourages* countries to maintain or consider enhancing measures to boost job-rich recovery, such as policies and incentives to enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment, in addition to efforts to reduce budget deficits in the long term, as appropriate;

30. *Encourages* efforts by States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider innovative measures to maximize the benefits of migration while minimizing the negative effects of the migration of both highly skilled and low-skilled workers from developing countries;

31. *Encourages* States to give appropriate consideration to human resources development strategies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[4]

32. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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[4] Resolution 70/1.

United Nations A/C.2/72/L.21

General Assembly

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Seventy second session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (b)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: women in development

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/104 of 20 December 1995, 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005, 62/206 of 19 December 2007, 64/217 of 21 December 2009, 66/216 of 22 December 2011, 68/227 of 20 December 2013, 69/236 of 19 December 2014 and 70/219 of 22 December 2015 and all its other resolutions on women in development, and the resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including those adopted most recently at its sixty-first session, as well as the declarations adopted at its forty-ninth,[1] fifty-fourth[2] and fifty-ninth sessions,[3]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] Ibid., *2010, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2010/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[3] Ibid., *2015, Supplement No. 7* (E/2015/27), chap. I, sect. A.

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Please recycle

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, by which it endorsed the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the recognition in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that gender equality, women's empowerment and women's full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to the achievement of sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity,

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[5] and the international commitments made at relevant United Nations summits and conferences in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[6] and the key actions for its further implementation,

Reaffirming also the importance of supporting Agenda 2063, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, as well as its 10-year plan of action, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme, embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and regional initiatives, which promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[7] and its early entry into force, and encouraging all parties to fully implement the Agreement, and all parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[8] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

Recalling its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, which reaffirms that promoting gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and resolutions of the General Assembly, including through investing in the development of women and girls and promoting their economic and political participation and equal access to economic and productive resources and education, is of fundamental importance

[4] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[5] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies in facilitating the advancement and empowerment of women in development, and in this context recalling the resolution on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reiterating the importance and value of the mandate of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), welcoming the leadership of UN-Women in providing a strong voice for women and girls at all levels, and reaffirming its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting accountability of the United Nations system in its work on gender equality and the empowerment of women,

Strongly condemning the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls,

Expressing concern that countries continue to grapple with the lingering effects of the 2007-2009 global financial and economic crises and that persistent structural constraints, such as low productivity, wage stagnation and rising income inequality, remain challenges in far too many developing countries and pose a challenge to stronger and sustained recovery, and that women remain especially affected by the slow pace of global economic recovery,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning the pursuit of full and productive employment and access to decent work and social protection for all in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, and calling upon States to adopt forward-looking macroeconomic policies that promote sustainable development and lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, increase productive employment opportunities and promote agricultural and industrial development,

Recognizing that men and women workers should have equal access to high quality education, skills training, health care, social security, fundamental rights at work, social and legal protections, including occupational safety and health, and decent work opportunities, as well as, inter alia, equal pay for work of equal value and equal opportunities with men for employment, leadership positions and decision-making at all levels, including inheritance, as applicable, equal access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, microfinance and natural resources,

Recognizing also that achieving the highest attainable standard of health, through, inter alia, equitable and universal access to affordable and quality health-care services and preventive health-care information, including in the area of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement and empowerment, that a lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including violence and the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of women's full enjoyment of human rights severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including the opportunities for receiving an education and for achieving economic and political empowerment,

Recognizing further that, in general, women undertake significantly more unpaid work than men and spend less time on paid work, that this double responsibility of paid and unpaid work contributes to greater time burdens on women and substantially limits their participation in the social, political and economic spheres and acknowledging the need to implement concrete measures to recognize, reduce and equitably redistribute the disproportionate share of unpaid

care and domestic work done by women, including through the promotion of the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men and by prioritizing, inter alia, social protection policies and infrastructure development, as appropriate,

Emphasizing the need to address disaster risk reduction and the building of resilience in the case of disasters with a renewed sense of urgency in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and noting with concern in this regard that women and girls are disproportionately affected by natural disasters,

Recognizing that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by desertification, deforestation, natural disasters, and climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods,

Reaffirming that nutrition and other related policies should pay special attention to the empowerment of women and girls, thereby contributing to women's full and equal access to social protection and resources, including income, land, water, finance, education, training, science and technology and health-care services, thus promoting food security and health,

Recognizing that the feminization of poverty persists, and that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for women's economic empowerment and sustainable development, and acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing also, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, for women and girls, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms in order to achieve gender equality and the advancement and empowerment of women,

Bearing in mind the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, which perpetuate multiple forms of discrimination against women and girls and stereotypical roles of men and women, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to eliminate gender inequality,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to gender equality and the empowerment of women and to development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Reaffirms* that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets,[10] that the achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities, that women and girls must enjoy equal access to high quality education, economic resources and political participation, as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment,

[9] A/70/256.

[10] See resolution 70/1.

leadership positions and decision-making at all levels, that it will work for a significant increase in investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels, that all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys, and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is crucial;

3. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic, social and environmental development to ensure that all people, in particular women and children living in poverty and in vulnerable situations, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in accordance with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[11] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[12] and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;[13]

4. *Stresses* the importance of the creation by States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women and girls in development, and of their undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

5. *Calls upon* States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation and follow-up of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[4] the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[5] and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development;[6]

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the full engagement of men and boys as strategic partners and allies for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, and commits to taking measures to fully engage men and boys in efforts to achieve the full, effective and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

7. *Also recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and poverty eradication, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues in order to ensure an adequate standard of living for women and girls throughout the life cycle, including through social protection systems;

8. *Urges* States to scale up efforts to accelerate the transition of women from informal employment to formal employment, including access to decent work,

[11] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[12] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[13] Resolution 69/313, annex.

improved wages and social protection, and to effectively support the recognition, reduction and equitable redistribution of unpaid care and domestic work by women, including through sustained investments in the care economy;

9. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of agricultural development and of rural women, including smallholders and women farmers, and indigenous women and women in local communities, and their traditional knowledge in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in food security and nutrition is recognized and addressed;

10. *Reaffirms* the need to end hunger and famine and achieve food security as a matter of priority, and to end all forms of malnutrition, and in this regard reaffirms the inclusive nature of the Committee on World Food Security, reaffirms the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,[14] and also reaffirms the commitment to devote resources to developing rural areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries, supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

11. *Stresses* the need to take action to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination against women and girls, including in the world of work, through the strengthening of institutional mechanisms and legal frameworks, given that violence and discrimination against women and girls in private and public spaces is a major impediment to the achievement of women's empowerment and their social and economic development that no country has managed to eliminate, and encourages States to adopt specific preventive measures to protect women and girls, youth and children from any abuse, including sexual abuse, exploitation, harassment, trafficking and violence, taking into account the need to address structural barriers and gender stereotypes that affect women in the world of work and to develop measures to promote the re-entry of victims and survivors of violence into the labour market;

12. *Recognizes* that investment in health contributes to reducing inequality, sustainable and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, and urges Governments to provide equal access to adequate health-care services for women and girls in order to achieve the realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of mental and physical health;

13. *Expresses deep concern*, that, globally, women and girls are still the most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic, that they bear a disproportionate share of the caregiving burden and that they are more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization, discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of HIV/AIDS, notes that progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls has been unacceptably slow and that the ability of women and girls to protect themselves from HIV continues to be compromised by physiological factors, gender inequalities, including unequal power relations in society between women and men and boys and girls, and unequal legal, economic and social status, insufficient access to health-care services, including sexual and reproductive health, and discrimination and violence in the public and private spheres, including trafficking in persons, sexual violence, exploitation and harmful practices, and calls upon Governments and the international community to urgently scale up responses towards achieving the goal of universal access to

[14] World Health Organization, document EB136/8, annexes I and II.

comprehensive HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and to end by the HIV/AIDS epidemic by 2030;

14. *Urges* Governments and all sectors of society to promote and pursue gender-based approaches to the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases based on data disaggregated by sex and age in their effort to address the critical differences in the rapidly growing magnitude of non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which affect people of all ages, gender, race and income levels, as noted in the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,[15] and notes that people living in vulnerable situations, in particular in developing countries, bear a disproportionate burden and that non-communicable diseases can affect women and men differently, because, inter alia, women bear a disproportionate share of the burden of caregiving;

15. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving newborn, child and maternal health, in this context calls upon States to implement their commitments to preventing and reducing newborn, child and maternal mortality and morbidity, and in that regard takes note with appreciation of commitments in support of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030), as well as national, regional and international initiatives contributing to the reduction in the number of maternal deaths and deaths of the newborn and children under 5 years of age;

16. *Encourages* Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation for all to rural areas and urban slums, in order to increase health and well-being;

17. *Expresses deep concern* that the lack of adequate sanitation facilities and related challenges such as water scarcity and unsafe water, disproportionately affect women and girls, including their labour force and school participation rates, and increase their vulnerability to violence, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of efforts to achieve sanitation for all and to end open defecation, paying special attention to women and girls, through efforts to ensure access to sanitation and hygiene facilities, including menstrual hygiene management;

18. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women and girls in the field of education and to ensure their equal access to, and encourage their participation in, all levels of education, including technical, vocational and tertiary education and training;

19. *Recognizes* the need to build dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people-centred economies, promoting youth employment, and women's economic empowerment in particular, and decent work for all, and to ensure that labour-market regulations and social provisions create a level playing field for women, for example by enacting and enforcing minimum wage legislation, eliminating discriminatory wage practices and promoting measures such as public works programmes, in order to enable women to cope with recurrent crises and long-term unemployment;

20. *Urges* States to adopt and implement legislation and policies, as appropriate, that are designed to recognize, value, reduce and redistribute women's disproportionate share of unpaid and domestic work, to provide support through the

[15] Resolution 66/2, annex.

development of infrastructure and technology and the provision of public services, including accessible and quality childcare and care facilities for children and other dependants, and to ensure that both women and men have access to social protection and maternity or paternity, parental and other forms of leave and allowances and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

21. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers to, as well as eliminate stereotypical attitudes towards, gender equality at work, to implement measures to achieve equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, as well as women's full participation in the formal economy, in particular in economic decision-making and resource allocation, and to take measures to increase women's access to productive resources and assets, including digital technology, land, property and financial services, including microfinance, as appropriate;

22. *Encourages* the United Nations system and donor countries to support States in increasing their investments in policies and programmes with a gender perspective, in order to promote full employment and decent work for women, and in delivering gender-responsive social protection and social services;

23. *Urges* Governments to develop, adequately resource and implement active labour-market policies to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas, as well as policies that encourage the full and equal participation of women and men, including persons with disabilities, in the formal labour market;

24. *Urges* the United Nations system and other international organizations, upon the request of States, to support and promote innovative programme responses to ensure women's access to decent work, to recognize, reduce and redistribute the unequal burden of care work, to promote social protection initiatives and measures for women and girls with a gender perspective and to support and encourage the scaling-up of existing good-practice programmes and initiatives;

25. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States in fully implementing the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito in 2016 in order to fulfil our common vision of cities and human settlements that achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;

26. *Encourages* States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

27. *Also encourages* States to adopt and implement, as appropriate, legislative and policies protecting women's labour and human rights in the workplace, including with respect to minimum wages, social protection and equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value, promoting collective bargaining and providing for recruitment, retention and promotion policies targeting women;

28. *Reaffirms* the commitment to women's equal rights and opportunities in political and economic decision-making and resource allocation, to the removal of all barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, and to the resolve to undertake legislative and administrative reforms to give women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, *encourages* the private sector to contribute to advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or for work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as protecting them against discrimination, sexual

harassment and abuse in the workplace, including by supporting the women's empowerment principles established by UN-Women and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourages increased investment in female-owned companies or businesses;

29. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate women's access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system gender-responsive, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns in order to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

30. *Stresses* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs, and that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, especially by financial institutions;

31. *Encourages* all Governments to work towards full and equal access to formal financial services for all women, to adopt or review their financial inclusion strategies, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, and to consider including financial inclusion as a policy objective in financial regulation, in accordance with national priorities and legislation, encourages commercial banking systems to serve all, including those who currently face barriers to accessing financial services and information, and to support microfinance institutions, development banks, agricultural banks, mobile network operators, agent networks, cooperatives, postal banks and savings banks, as appropriate, encourages the use of innovative tools, including mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and the expansion of peer learning and experience-sharing among countries and regions, regional organizations and the United Nations regional commissions, commits itself to strengthening capacity development for developing countries, including through the United Nations development system, and encourages mutual cooperation and collaboration between financial inclusion initiatives;

32. *Urges* all States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to all types of financial services and products, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, regardless of their economic and social status, in order to support women's access to legal assistance;

33. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

34. *Urges* Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on the development of savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women and that support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

35. *Recognizes* that women and girls account for almost half of all international migrants at the global level and the need to address the special situation and vulnerability of migrant women and girls by, inter alia, incorporating a gender perspective into policies and strengthening national laws, institutions and programmes to prevent and combat gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and discrimination against women and girls, and calls upon Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women and girls, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, working conditions and wages, and to promote access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

36. *Also recognizes* the special needs of women and girls living in areas affected by complex humanitarian emergencies and people living in under foreign occupation in areas affected by terrorism, and that global health threats, climate change, more frequent and intense natural disasters, conflicts, violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism and related humanitarian crises and the forced displacement of people threaten to reverse much of the development progress made in recent decades and have particular negative impacts on women and girls that need to be comprehensively assessed and addressed;

37. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to ensure equal access to full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and that labour markets and work environments are open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, and to take positive measures to increase the employment of women with disabilities and to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability with regard to all matters concerning all forms of employment, including recruitment, retention and promotion, and the provision of safe, secure and healthy working conditions, in consultation with relevant national mechanisms and organizations of persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development and vocational and entrepreneurial training, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, as noted in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[16] as well as in the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond,[17] and notes the need to strengthen efforts aimed at addressing the rights and needs of women and children with disabilities;

38. *Encourages* States and the United Nations system to ensure systematic attention to, recognition of and support for the crucial role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflict, in mediation and peacebuilding efforts and in the rebuilding of post-conflict societies, inter alia, by promoting women's capacity, leadership, participation and engagement in political and economic decision-making, and in this regard to promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes;

39. *Urges* States to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure the full and equal participation of women in all levels of decision-making on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges for women and girls posed by climate change;

[16] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.
[17] Resolution 68/3.

40. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in decision-making and of gender mainstreaming in developing and implementing disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response and recovery strategies;

41. *Also stresses* the importance of improving and systematizing the collection, analysis and dissemination of high-quality, accessible, timely and reliable data, disaggregated by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migration status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts, and of developing gender indicators that are specific and relevant with respect to supporting policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on progress and impact, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

42. *Encourages* Governments in cooperation with the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations, upon the request of Governments, to collect, analyse and disseminate sex-disaggregated data and statistics and to assess the impact of associated policy measures on women's:

(a) Social protection, and access to decent work;

(b) Unpaid care and domestic work through regular time-use surveys and the establishment of satellite accounts to assess the contribution of such work to national income;

(c) Informal employment, disaggregated by sex, income, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location;

43. *Urges* all States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building in this regard on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[18] and conventions of the International Labour Organization;

44. *Urges* States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender-equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development strategies, to ensure alignment between national action plans on gender equality and national development strategies and to encourage the involvement of men and boys in the promotion of gender equality, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

45. *Encourages* States to ensure the inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in the formulation of national development strategies, including strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, and to strengthen capacities for gender mainstreaming by allocating adequate financial and human resources to national women's machineries, as well as to, and within, line ministries, establishing and/or strengthening dedicated units for gender equality and the empowerment of women, providing capacity development for technical staff and developing tools and guidelines, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

[18] United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

46. *Also encourages* States to continue to increase, as appropriate, the participation of civil society, including women's organizations, in government decision-making processes in national policy areas, including sustainable development;

47. *Encourages* States, the United Nations system and donor countries to strengthen and implement gender-responsive planning and budgeting processes and to develop and strengthen methodologies and tools for this purpose, as well as for the monitoring and evaluation of investments for gender-equality results, as appropriate, and encourages donors to mainstream a gender perspective into their practices, including joint coordination and accountability mechanisms;

48. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets and that the full implementation of those commitments will substantially boost resources available to push forward the international development agenda, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment;

49. *Urges* the donor community, States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders, to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming, the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and also to strengthen the mechanisms needed to measure effectively the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

50. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries in integrating a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

51. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the financial resources necessary to assist Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, at which the outcome document entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"[10] was adopted, and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

52. *Urges* States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to accelerate their efforts and to provide adequate resources to increase the voice and full and equal participation of women in all decision-making bodies at the highest levels of government and in the governance structures of international organizations, including by eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions, to build women's capacity as agents of change and to empower them to participate actively and effectively in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable

development, poverty eradication and environmental policies, strategies and programmes;

53. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women and girls, in particular in rural and remote areas;

54. *Recognizes* the ongoing intergovernmental efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women, and urges the United Nations system to continue efforts to achieve gender balance in appointments to all categories of staff, including the Professional and higher categories, within the United Nations system at the Headquarters, regional and country levels, bearing in mind the principle of equitable geographical representation, with due regard to the representation of women from developing countries, and convinced of the need to guarantee equal opportunities for women and men in gaining access to senior decision-making positions, including to the post of Secretary-General, bearing in mind the need to select the best candidate;

55. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments, investment frameworks and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain in accordance with national development strategies, welcomes the work of UN-Women with United Nations country teams in assisting States, at their request, in integrating a gender perspective into national development policies and strategies, including sustainable development policies and strategies, in accordance with their national priorities, and stresses its important role in leading, coordinating and promoting the accountability of the United Nations system so as to ensure that the commitment to gender equality and gender mainstreaming translates into effective action throughout the world;

56. *Calls upon* organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks, as set out in its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016;

57. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

58. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 71/241 of 21 December 2016 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[1] as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome[2] and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[3]

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 55/2.

[2] Resolution 60/1.

[3] Resolution 66/288, annex.

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building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Taking note of the ongoing efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, adopted in September 2014 at the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States,[5] and the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024, adopted in November 2014 at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries,[6] and recognizing that many middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and the need for, inter alia, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders,

Reaffirming the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa's Development and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

Taking note with appreciation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011, entitled "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact", of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Council,[7] which called for increased efforts to enhance coordination at all levels with a view to strengthening national development strategies, investing in productive capacities, helping to start and grow business and promoting opportunities for full and productive employment and decent work for all, and of the integration segment of the 2017 session of the Council, which was convened under the theme "Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges", and taking note of the outcomes of that integration segment, including the notion that poverty eradication and pro-poor principles are among the main goals of national agendas or long-term national strategies, as stated by countries during the 2017 session,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[8] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[9]

Reaffirming its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with

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[4] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (A/CONF.219/7), chap. II.

[5] Resolution 69/15, annex.

[6] Resolution 69/137, annex II.

[7] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/67/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, sect. F.

[8] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[9] Resolution 63/239, annex.

concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Acknowledging, in this regard, the efforts to implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, including the convening of the second Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in May 2017, and stressing the need for continued substantive deliberation on the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in the forum as the designated mechanism to follow up on the financing for development outcomes,

Taking note of the adoption of the Nairobi Maafikiano on 22 July 2016, during the fourteenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Nairobi from 17 to 22 July 2016,[10] reaffirming the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the focal point within the United Nations system for the integrated treatment of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development, and recognizing that trade and development can contribute to the eradication of poverty and that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development therefore has a role to play in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

Concerned at the global nature of poverty and inequality, underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and of hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of all humankind, and in this regard recognizing that there is a need to better understand the multidimensional nature of development and poverty,

Reaffirming that each country faces specific challenges in its pursuit of sustainable development, that the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States deserve special attention, as do countries in situations of conflict and post-conflict countries, and that there are also serious challenges within many middle-income countries,

Deeply concerned that poverty acts as a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and that the feminization of poverty persists, stressing the importance of giving to women equal rights with men to economic resources, including access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, credit, inheritance, natural resources and appropriate new technology, reaffirming that women play a critical role in development, contribute to structural transformation and are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities and that their full, effective and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, and reaffirming also that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and are critical factors in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that, nine years after the financial crisis, the global economy is still facing subdued growth and aggregate demand, income inequality and financial fragility, that trade has grown still more slowly, that, although interest rates are now beginning to rise, capital flows are again becoming volatile, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and developing countries' share in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed

[10] TD/519/Add.2 and TD/519/Add.2/Corr.1.

towards a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries, particularly developing countries, still face considerable challenges and some have fallen further behind,

Underlining that the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) coincided with the 2007-2008 shocks in food and energy prices and the onset of the global financial and economic crisis that led to the great recession, as well as witnessed major natural disasters and an escalation of conflicts that erased years of development progress in some regions, in which policy lessons from the responses to these crises and disasters will be important for maintaining the momentum generated by the implementation of the Decade towards poverty eradication and ensuring that markets work better for people living in poverty,

Reaffirming that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, that its adverse impacts undermine the ability of all countries to achieve sustainable development, that increases in global temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification and other climate change impacts are seriously affecting coastal areas and low-lying coastal countries, including many least developed countries and small island developing States, and that the survival of many societies and of the biological support systems of the planet are at risk, which further threaten food security and efforts to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development, and thus require urgent action to maintain, preserve and sustain the development gains achieved in the past decades,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[11] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[12] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,

Committed to working to strengthen regulatory frameworks at all levels to further increase the transparency and accountability of financial institutions and the corporate sector, as well as public administrations, and to strengthening international cooperation and national institutions to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, particularly in Africa, in the least developed countries, in small island developing States and in some middle-income countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, including full, productive employment and decent work for all, with a view to reducing inequalities within and among countries,

Recognizing the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and promote the empowerment of the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including women, children and youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, older persons, persons with disabilities, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons,

[11] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.
[12] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Underlining the primary responsibility of Member States to promote universal health coverage that comprises universal and equitable access to quality health services and ensures affordable and quality service delivery, especially through primary health care and social protection mechanisms, with the support of enhanced international cooperation and with a view to providing access to health services for all, including those who are vulnerable or marginalized, and underlining also that women and children are particularly affected by disasters and outbreaks,

Recognizing the centrality of mobilizing financial and non-financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources, as well as the importance of policy coherence and a coordinated approach that involves participation at all levels by all actors to promote an enabling environment for sustainable development, and of reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals,

Underscoring that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels,

Acknowledging the important role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development,

Taking into consideration that official development assistance remains an important source of financing for development in developing countries,

Acknowledging that South-South cooperation is not a substitute for but rather a complement to North-South cooperation, and recognizing the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and pursue sustainable development,

Emphasizing the essential role of inclusive and sustainable industrial development as part of a comprehensive strategy of structural economic transformation in eradicating poverty and supporting sustained economic growth and thus in contributing to achieving sustainable development in developing countries,

Taking note of the work done under the inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system in its advisory and programmatic support to Member States, involving more than 21 agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, and encouraging the alignment of that work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017), under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues";[13]

2. *Recognizes* that, during the implementation of the Second Decade, the international community adopted, inter alia, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[14] the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,[15] the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[11] the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030,[16] the New Urban Agenda,[17] the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want",[3] the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[4] the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,[5] the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024[6] and Agenda 2063 of the African Union;

3. *Also recognizes* the contribution that the Second Decade has made to poverty eradication, and notes the interest expressed for the proclamation of a Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty;

4. *Proclaims* the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027) in order to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

5. *Reaffirms* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, as well as an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part;

6. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies for the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be overemphasized, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership strategies and sovereignty;

7. *Expresses its deep concern* that, while the Second Decade is ending, and recognizing that there has been progress in reducing poverty, such progress remains uneven, with the number of people living in poverty in its different forms and dimensions continuing to be significant and levels of inequality in income, wealth and opportunities remaining high or widening in a number of countries, and thus there is a need to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including Member States, to continue to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda and to urgently take measures to address the root

[13] A/72/283.
[14] Resolution 70/1.
[15] Resolution 69/313, annex.
[16] Resolution 69/283, annex II.
[17] Resolution 71/256, annex.

causes and challenges of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger and all forms of malnutrition, in the light of their negative impacts on sustainable development, through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at all levels, including at the inter-agency level, in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, and calls upon donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard through predictable financial resources and technical assistance on bilateral and multilateral bases;

9. *Calls upon* States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socioeconomic approaches to overcoming poverty, and, in view of the negative impact of inequality, including gender inequality, on poverty, emphasizes the importance of structural transformation that leads to inclusive and sustainable industrialization for employment creation and poverty reduction, investing in sustainable agriculture, resilient infrastructure development, and enhancing interconnectivity and achieving access to energy, as well as promoting decent rural employment, improving access to quality education, promoting quality health care, including through the acceleration of transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, expanding social protection coverage, climate change mitigation and adaptation and combating inequality and social exclusion;

10. *Remains deeply concerned* that, while the prevalence of extreme poverty continues its decades-long descent, progress has been uneven, 1.6 billion people still live in multidimensional poverty, the total number of persons living in extreme poverty remains unacceptably high, and the non-income dimensions of poverty and deprivation, such as access to quality education or basic health services, and relative poverty remain major concerns;

11. *Recognizes* the urgent need to address poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, which will lead to rich payoffs across the Sustainable Development Goals, and encourages the international community to enhance international cooperation and to devote resources to developing rural and urban areas and sustainable agriculture and fisheries and to supporting smallholder farmers, especially women farmers, herders and fishers in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries;

12. *Stresses* the resolve to eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere, measured in 2015 as living on less than $1.25 dollar a day, and the efforts to reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its forms and dimensions, according to national definitions;

13. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices relating to programmes and policies that address inequalities for the benefit of those living in extreme poverty and promote the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of an outcome from the Second Decade, and that, while the centrality of employment and decent jobs to the eradication of poverty is well recognized, employment growth has not been sufficient to absorb the growing labour force, especially in those countries and regions with large youth populations;

15. [illegible] the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, including among young people and young women in particular, recognizes that decent work for all remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

16. *Urges* Member States to address the global challenge of youth unemployment by developing and implementing strategies that give young people, including young women, everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work, encourages mass entrepreneurship and innovation, and in this context stresses the need for the development of a global strategy on youth employment, building upon, inter alia, the Global Jobs Pact and the call for action by the International Labour Organization;

17. *Recognizes* that substantial and efficiently spent investments are needed to improve the quality of education and in order to enable millions of people to acquire skills for decent work, and takes note with appreciation of the report of the International Commission on Financing Global Education Opportunity, and the recommendations contained therein, as appropriate;

18. *Encourages* the international community to support developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, the poor and people in vulnerable situations, with a view to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, improving access to financial services, including affordable microfinance and credit, removing barriers to opportunity, enhancing productive capacity, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, encouraging the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, developing sustainable agriculture and promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all, emphasizing the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing workers from the informal to the formal economy, guided, as appropriate, by the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), of the International Labour Organization, complemented by national efforts on effective social policies, including social protection floors, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), of the International Labour Organization;

19. *Acknowledges* that good governance at the national and international levels and sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work for all, and social integration, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment, inter alia public-private partnership in a wide range of areas, and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which builds upon the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and addresses their unfinished business, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment;

20. *Stresses* the importance of using multidimensional indicators and developing transparent measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product in order to effectively reflect the reality of the populations of all developing countries in order to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality everywhere, in accordance with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

21. *Recognizes* that social and economic development depends on the sustainable management of the natural resources of the planet, and stresses the importance of conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife, as well as promoting sustainable tourism, tackling water scarcity and water pollution, strengthening cooperation on desertification, dust storms, degraded land and soil and drought, promoting resilience and disaster risk reduction, addressing decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation and implementing the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;[15]

22. *Also recognizes* that sustainable, inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic, trade and social policies at all levels;

23. *Stresses* the importance of taking targeted measures to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including social protection floors, and of achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and encourages Member States to continue to develop and implement social protection floors based on national priorities, paying particular attention to women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

24. *Also stresses* the importance of policies to address longer-term structural issues, including structural constraints faced by women as economic agents, and to remove any barriers that prevent women from being full participants in the economy, through, inter alia, undertaking legislation and administrative reforms, as appropriate, to give women equal rights with men in political and economic decision-making and access to economic resources and to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through paid maternity and parental leave and the redistribution of the disproportionate work burden of women engaged in unpaid work, including domestic and care work, and encourages the private sector, in accordance with national legislation, to contribute through advancing gender equality by striving to ensure women's full and productive employment and decent work, equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and equal opportunities, as well as by protecting them against discrimination and abuse in the workplace;

25. *Emphasizes* the reference in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the need to ensure the significant mobilization of financial and non-financial resources from a variety of sources, through enhanced development cooperation, including regional, subregional and interregional cooperation, in order to provide predictable means for all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to implement programmes and policies to end poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

[15] A/CONF.216/5, annex.

26. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty also hinge on the ability of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance (ODA) commitments and facilitate the transfer of technology to developing countries, and also stresses that debt relief and sustainability are critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

27. *Recognizes* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, which relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up;

28. *Takes note* of the High-level Conference on Financing for Development and the Means of Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to be held in Doha on 18 and 19 November 2017;

29. *Recognizes* that private business activity, investment and innovation are major drivers of productivity, inclusive economic growth and job creation and that private international capital flows, particularly foreign direct investment, along with a stable international financial system, are vital complements to national development efforts;

30. *Also recognizes* that additional domestic public resources, supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization underscored by the principle of national ownership;

31. *Notes* that an important use of international public finance, including ODA, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private, and also notes that it can support improved tax collection, help to strengthen domestic enabling environments and build essential public services and can also be used to unlock additional finance through blended or pooled financing and risk mitigation, notably for infrastructure and other investments that support private sector development;

32. *Stresses* the importance of mobilizing greater domestic support towards the fulfilment of ODA commitments, including through raising public awareness, providing data on aid effectiveness and demonstrating tangible results, encourages partner countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that ODA is used effectively to help to achieve development goals and targets, encourages the publication of forward-looking plans which increase the clarity, predictability and transparency of future development cooperation, in accordance with national budget allocation processes, and urges countries to track and report resource allocations for advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

33. *Emphasizes* that international public finance plays an important role in complementing the efforts of countries to mobilize public resources domestically, especially in the poorest and most vulnerable countries with limited domestic resources;

34. *Welcomes* the increase in the volume of ODA since the adoption of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[9] while expressing its concern that many countries still fall short of their ODA commitments, reiterates that the fulfilment of all ODA commitments remains crucial, and that for the least developed countries as a group, ODA remains the largest source of external financing, welcomes those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries, and urges all other countries to step up efforts to increase their ODA and to make additional concrete efforts towards the ODA targets, welcomes the decision by the European Union reaffirming its collective commitment to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of ODA/GNI within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and undertaking to meet collectively the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries in the short term and to reach 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries within the time frame of the 2030 Agenda, and encourages ODA providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries;

35. *Also welcomes* the increasing efforts to improve the quality of ODA and to increase its development impact, recognizes the Development Cooperation Forum of the Economic and Social Council, notes other initiatives, such as the high-level forums on aid effectiveness, which produced, inter alia, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, the Accra Agenda for Action[19] and the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, which make important contributions to the efforts of the countries that have made commitments to them, including through the adoption of the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization and managing for results, and bears in mind that there is no one-size-fits-all formula that will guarantee effective assistance and that the specific situation of each country needs to be fully considered;

36. *Recognizes* that the decline in ODA to the least developed countries during the past years was a worrisome trend and that the level of 0.09 per cent of gross national income attained in 2014 remained below the relevant 0.15 to 0.20 per cent target to which many developed countries have committed, and notes, in that context, the 4 per cent real-term increase in bilateral ODA to the least developed countries in 2015 and the projection that the proportion of ODA to those countries will continue to rise in 2016-2019, suggesting that developed countries are reversing the decline in ODA to the least developed countries;

37. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to strengthen United Nations funding for the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, through voluntary contributions to existing poverty-related system-wide funds;

38. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development and its role at the regional level, in particular that of its regional commissions, as appropriate, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

39. *Acknowledges* the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard emphasizes that, in accelerating poverty eradication, the organizations of the United Nations development system must be driven by national priorities, with the development of national capacities in developing countries continuing to be a core area of focus, and operate in an integrated, coordinated and

[19] A/63/539, annex.

coherent manner, through development programmes and projects that address poverty eradication as their underlying objective, within their respective mandates, in order to ensure that gains are irreversible, making full use of the interlinked and mutually reinforcing pillars of the United Nations development system, and encourages the use of diverse strategies;

40. *Recognizes* the role of the specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes and regional commissions in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including through education and training;

41. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, including the funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in accordance with their mandates, to assign the highest priority to poverty eradication, and stresses that efforts in this area should be scaled up to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger;

42. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to support Member States, at their request, in strengthening their macroeconomic policy capacity and national development strategies;

43. *Encourages* greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding the duplication of efforts;

44. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to ensure that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution;

45. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the outcome documents relating to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, and the means of implementation, including the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;

46. *Urges* the United Nations to intensify support for States to fully implement the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito in 2016;

47. *Stresses* that the impacts of natural disasters, climate change, conflicts and major outbreaks of disease are severely hampering efforts to achieve poverty eradication, in particular in developing countries, and calls upon the international community to give priority to addressing them;

48. *Recognizes* the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing many middle-income countries, and therefore requests the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries;

49. *Invites* all States, organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations concerned and interested national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to consider organizing activities for the celebration in 2018 of the twenty-sixth anniversary of the declaration by the General Assembly, in its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, of 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, in order to raise public awareness to promote the eradication of poverty and extreme poverty in all countries, and in this regard recognizes the useful role that the observance of the Day continues to play in raising public awareness and mobilizing all stakeholders in the fight against poverty and promoting the active participation of those living in extreme poverty in the design and implementation of programmes and policies which affect them, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report containing recommendations on how to make the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027) effective, in support of the poverty eradication-related internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

51. *Considers* that the theme for the Third Decade, to be reviewed at the seventy-third session of the General Assembly, shall be "Accelerating global actions for a world without poverty", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at that session a report that details the current response of the United Nations system to the theme, including an inter-agency, system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication coordinating the efforts of the United Nations system;

52. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-third session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018-2027)".

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Agenda item 21 (d)
Globalization and interdependence: development cooperation with middle income countries

Ecuador:* draft resolution

Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming also its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Welcoming the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[1] and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and all parties to the United Nations

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1, decision 1/CP.21, annex.

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Framework Convention on Climate Change[2] that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Welcoming also the successful conclusion of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016 and the adoption of the New Urban Agenda,[3]

Recalling that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes, inter alia, that middle-income countries still face significant challenges to achieve sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders,

Reaffirming its resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016, entitled "Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", in which it recognized that middle-income countries still face specific development challenges,

Recalling its resolutions 63/223 of 19 December 2008, 64/208 of 21 December 2009, 66/212 of 22 December 2011, 68/222 of 20 December 2013 and 70/215 of 22 December 2015,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid on 1 and 2 March 2007,[4] in San Salvador on 3 and 4 October 2007,[5] in Windhoek from 4 to 6 August 2008[6] and in San José from 12 to 14 June 2013,[7]

Noting the regional conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Cairo on 11 and 12 March 2008, in Minsk on 16 and 17 May 2013, in Amman on 23 May 2013 and in Minsk on 23 and 24 April 2015,

Emphasizing that cohesive, nationally owned sustainable development strategies, supported by integrated national financing frameworks, will be at the heart of efforts by States, reiterating that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, highlighting the need to respect each country's policy space and leadership in the implementation of policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development while remaining consistent with relevant international rules and commitments, recognizing that national development efforts need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems and strengthened and enhanced global economic governance, and highlighting the fact that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies globally, as well as capacity-building, are also critical, including pursuing policy coherence and an enabling environment for sustainable development at all levels and by all actors and reinvigorating the global partnership for sustainable development,

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[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.
[3] Resolution 71/256, annex.
[4] See A/62/71-E/2007/46, annex.
[5] See A/62/483-E/2007/90, annex.
[6] See A/C.2/63/3, annexes I and II.
[7] See A/C.2/68/5.

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at their request and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

Recognizing the need for the United Nations development system to provide better and focused support to middle-income countries in addressing their significant challenges, in accordance with national circumstances and taking into account the diversity of middle-income countries,

Emphasizing that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development and that development assistance by the United Nations development system should respond to the varying development needs of programme countries, including the development needs of middle-income countries, and should be aligned with their national development plans and strategies in accordance with its mandates, keeping in mind the needs of the least developed countries,

Highlighting that processes to develop and facilitate the availability of appropriate knowledge and technologies in developing countries, including middle-income countries, as well as capacity-building, are also critical for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of middle-income countries and that, despite notable reductions in poverty, middle-income countries are still home to 73 per cent of the world's people living in poverty and inequalities remain,

Recalling that, despite notable progress in reducing poverty levels in both absolute and relative terms, poverty remains a problem in many middle-income countries, that further investment in social services and economic opportunities are needed in order to reduce those inequalities and that high levels of inequality, or even a rise in inequality, remains pervasive in middle-income countries, even in those economies with high levels of economic growth,

Recognizing that high degrees of inequality may contribute to vulnerability in middle-income countries and constrain sustainable development in many of those countries, and that economic growth needs to be sustained, inclusive and equitable,

Stressing that middle-income countries continue to face particular challenges related to, inter alia, job creation, the diversification and transformation of their economies and access to international markets and, in this regard, that efforts to create a national enabling environment for development should be complemented by a global enabling environment,

Noting with concern that access to concessional finance is reduced as national incomes grow, and that, in such circumstances, countries may not be able to access sufficient affordable financing from other sources to meet their needs,

Recalling the resolve of States to enhance and strengthen domestic resource mobilization and fiscal space, including, where appropriate, through modernized tax systems, more efficient tax collection, the broadening of the tax base and the effective combating of tax evasion and capital flight, and reiterating that, while each country is responsible for its tax system, it is important to support national efforts in these areas by strengthening technical assistance and enhancing international cooperation and participation in addressing international tax matters,

Recognizing the need to better understand the multidimensional nature of development and poverty, and acknowledging the significant role that the United Nations system has played and should continue to play in this regard,

Expressing concern that climate change is also increasingly becoming a determinant of productivity in middle-income countries, as extreme weather shocks directly affect productivity through the destruction of infrastructure and labour force displacement, and that a number of middle-income countries have sizeable sectors that are exposed to climate change, such as agriculture, construction, mining, tourism and transport,

Reaffirming that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls, and the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development, and in that regard reiterating the need for gender mainstreaming, including targeted actions and investments in the formulation and implementation of all financial, economic, environmental and social policies,

Stressing that public debt for middle-income countries increased in the period from 2015 to 2017, that the ratio of public debt to gross domestic product for these countries increased from around 48 per cent in 2015 to a projected 51 per cent in 2017 and that higher public debt levels may have an adverse impact on the fiscal space needed to address the challenges to sustainable development,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact and consequences of the world financial and economic crisis, including on development, and evidence of an uneven, fragile and slow recovery, cognizant that the global economy, notwithstanding significant efforts that helped to contain tail risks, improve financial market conditions and stability and sustain recovery, still remains in a challenging phase, with downside risks, including high volatility in global markets, falling commodity prices, high unemployment, particularly among young people, unsustainable debt in some countries and widespread fiscal strains, which pose challenges for global economic recovery and reflect the need for additional progress towards sustaining and rebalancing global demand, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date,

Stressing the importance of inclusiveness within the United Nations development system and that no country and no one is left behind in the implementation of the present resolution,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries in eradicating poverty and achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

3. *Also acknowledges* that identifying structural gaps can improve the understanding of development needs of developing countries, including middle-income countries;

4. *Underlines* the need for sustained efforts towards achieving debt sustainability in middle-income countries in order to avoid a debt crisis, and, to that end, notes, and encourages, further efforts by international financial institutions to enhance facilities to support them;

[8] A/72/329.

5. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals, as established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[9] and the unfinished business of the Millennium Development Goals, and in that regard underlines the importance of international support, in various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities to address the development needs of middle-income countries, including through capacity-building;

6. *Also recognizes* that, with 73 per cent of the world's poor population concentrated in middle-income countries, cooperation aimed at those countries can have a multiplying effect by contributing significantly to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

7. *Welcomes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries, in particular the financial, technical, technology transfer and capacity-building support being provided by middle-income countries, particularly to the least developed countries, through South-South and triangular cooperation, while stressing that South-South cooperation is a complement to, and not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations development system to continue its ongoing efforts to mainstream support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation;

8. *Decides* to enhance North-South, South-South and triangular, regional and international cooperation on, and access to, science, technology and innovation and to enhance knowledge-sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the United Nations level, and through the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

9. *Requests* the United Nations development system to ensure that it addresses the diverse development needs of middle-income countries in a coordinated manner through, inter alia, an accurate assessment of the national priorities and needs of these countries, taking into account the use of variables that go beyond per capita income criteria;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations development system to continue to support developing countries in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and their development objectives, and requests the development system to address the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries, as well as the specific challenges facing the middle-income countries, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities, in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[10] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to report on the outcomes of existing strategies within the United Nations development system related to middle income countries;

11. *Calls upon* developed countries and developing countries members of the World Trade Organization declaring themselves in a position to do so to realize the timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all products originating from all the least developed countries, consistent with

[9] Resolution 70/1.

[10] Resolution 69/313, annex.

the decisions of the World Trade Organization, and also calls upon those countries to take steps to facilitate market access for products of the least developed countries, including by developing simple and transparent rules of origin applicable to imports from the least developed countries, in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the members of the World Trade Organization at its Ninth Ministerial Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 7 December 2013;

12. *Recognizes* the importance of the role of the private sector, as well as of the role of public-private partnerships, in meeting the challenges of sustainable development for middle-income countries and other developing countries;

13. *Welcomes* the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, welcomes in this regard the convening of the first and second annual multi-stakeholder forums on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, which took place on 6 and 7 June 2016 and on 15 and 16 May 2017 at United Nations Headquarters, as well as the mapping exercise carried out by the United Nations inter-agency task team on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, and calls for voluntary contributions for resources to support the full operationalization of all components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism;

14. *Recognizes* the great importance of providing trade-related capacity-building for developing countries, including African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, including for the promotion of regional economic integration and interconnectivity;

15. *Also recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders, requests those stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries, and acknowledges that official development assistance and other forms of concessional financing are still important for a number of these countries and have a role to play in achieving targeted results, taking into account the specific needs of these countries;

16. *Encourages* shareholders in multilateral development banks to develop graduation policies that are sequenced, phased and gradual and to explore ways to ensure that their assistance best addresses the opportunities and challenges presented by the diverse circumstances of middle-income countries;

17. *Recognizes* that Governments will have the primary responsibility for follow-up and review at the national, regional and global levels in relation to the progress made in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and that quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data will be needed to help with the measurement of progress and to ensure that no one is left behind, and in this regard reiterates the commitment to intensify efforts to strengthen statistical capacities in developing countries, including middle-income countries;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of its resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, and stresses that the concerns and specific challenges of middle-income countries should be